

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
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INFO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
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USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 4837

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR PORG OAU ET SO
SUBJECT: OAU ETHIO-SOMALI MEDIATION COMMITTEE

REF: LIBREVILLE 2056

1. FULL TEXT OF RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY OAU GOOD OFFICES COMMITTEE ON ETHIO-SOMALI DISPUTE CARRIED IN ETHIOPIAN PRESS AUGUST 10. LANGUAGE ESSENTIALLY AS SUMMARIZED REFTEL, EXCEPT THAT GOOD OFFICES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, RATHER THAN OAU CHAIRMAN, IS TO CONTACT ETHIOPIAN AND SOMALI HEADS OF STATE TO EFFECT CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES.

2. ALTHOUGH IT DOES NOT APPEAR THAT TEXT UNDERWENT FURTHER REVISION IN ETHIOPIA'S FAVOR, EPMG SHOULD DERIVE SOME SATISFACTION FROM OUTCOME OF MEETING. MEDIA INTERPRETED OAU RECOMMENDATION AS REFUSAL TO ACCEPT SOMALI CONTENTION THAT ITS REGULAR ARMED FORCES WERE NOT INVOLVED IN FIGHTING IN EASTERN ETHIOPIA, AND AS REJECTION OF SOMALI PLEA THAT "SO- CALLED WESTERN SOMALI LIBERATION FRONT" SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN LIBREVILLE MEETING.

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3. QUESTION STILL REMAINS, HOWEVER, WHERE ETHIOPIA CAN GO FROM HERE ON DIPLOMATIC FRONT, GIVEN FACT THAT SOMALI FORCES NOW ESTIMATED TO OCCUPY EIGHTY PER CENT OF OGADEN. THERE IS LITTLE PROSPECT THAT EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WILL BE CONVENED, AND EPMG HAS SHOWN NO INCLINATION SO FAR TO GO TO UNSC. STILL, OAU POSITION DOES ACKNOWLEDGE THAT HOSTILITIES

ARE TAKING PLACE BETWEEN ETHIOPIA AND SOMALIA, AND
THAT BOTH COUNTRIES ARE IN POSITION TO BRING ABOUT CES-
SATION OF THOSE HOSTILITIES. POSSIBLY ON THAT BASIS,
EPMG MAY DECIDE IT HAS BETTER CASE THAN HERETOFORE TO
BRING TO UNSC ATTENTION, ALTHOUGH ITS SOVIET PATRON
WOULD HARDLY BE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT ANY SUCH PROSPECT.
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Message Attributes

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